

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15 SCA-01 EB-11

DOT-00 FAA-00 CAB-09 JUSE-00 AID-20 COME-00 OMB-01

SY-10 M-03 A-01 USSS-00 RSR-01 /212 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8917

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 2732

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINS UN

SUBJ: UN AD HOC COMITE ON TERRORISM

SUMMARY: GENERAL DEBATE CONTINUED JULY 30 WITH STATEMENTS FROM USSR, IRAN, AND ALGERIA. US EXERCISED RIGHT OF REPLY TO REJECT SOV CHARGE OF USG CONNIVANCE IN JDL TERRORISM. COMITE DEBATED ORGANIZATION OF WORK WITH ZAIRE, ALGERIA, USSR, AND MAURITANIA ARGUING THAT DEFINITION OF TERRORISM REQUIRED PRIOR TO FURTHER WORK, AND WITH US, SWEDEN, JAPAN, IRAN, CANADA, UK, URUGUAY, AND ITALY ARGUING FOR PROMPTLY BEGINNING WORK ON MEASURES. END SUMMARY.

1. USSR REP CITING POSITION AT 27TH GA SAID USSR OPPOSES ACTS OF TERRORISM WHICH INTERFERE WITH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS OR SERVE NO LEGITIMATE PURPOSE AND ONLY INJURE INNOCENT PERSONS. HE SAID HISTORY SHOWS IT ACTS OF TERROR BY AGGRESSORS OR COLONIALISTS THAT PROVOKE LEGITIMATE RETALIATION AND THEREFORE ARGUED NO MEASURES COULD BE EXTENDED TO SUCH RESISTANCE. HE CITED AS EXAMPLES FRENCH MARQUIS, PATRIOTS STRUGGLING AGAINST AGGRESSION IN INDOCHINA, RESISTORS TO OCCUPATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND RESISTORS TO COLONIALISTS IN AFRICA. ON OTHER HAND, UNCLASSIFIED

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HE SAID RAIDS BY ISRAEL, PORTUGAL, AND SOUTH AFRICA GENUINE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. HE CITED ISRAELI SHOOTING OF CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT. HE ARGUED THESE EVILS MUST BE EXPOSED AND FOUGHT INTERNATIONALLY THROUGH UN.

2. SOV REP CONDEMNED ACTS OF INDIVIDUAL EXTREMISTS AS NOT SERVING CAUSE FOR WHICH THEY COMMITTED AND NOT CONSISTENT WITH MARXIST/LENINIST THEORY THAT SUCH ACTIVITY SHOULD BE DONE BY THE MASSES. IN CONSIDERING SCOPE HE SUGGESTED COMITE SHOULD FIRST CONSIDER ATTACKS AGAINST FOREIGNERS FOR PROVOKING WAR, ETC., AND SECOND FOR ORDINARY CRIMINAL MOTIVES. CITING ICAO CONVENTIONS AND ILC DRAFT ARTICLES ON PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS AS EXAMPLES OF MEASURES AGAINST TERRORISM, HE THOUGHT ILC ARTICLES GOOD BASIS FOR ADOPTION AT 28TH GA OF CONVENTION ON PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS. HE SUGGESTED PRIORITY BE GIVEN TO: STUDY OF CAUSES; INTERNAL MEASURES TO PROTECT FOREIGNERS; AND BI-AND MULTI-LATERAL AGREEMENTS ON EXTRADITION.

3. SOV REP SAID INTERNATIONAL ATMOSPHERE POISONED BY EXISTENCE OF CERTAIN ORGANIZATIONS AND CITED "SEMI-FASCIST JEWISH DEFENSE LEAGUE WHICH WITH CONNIVANCE OF COUNTRY IN WHICH THEY OPERATE DO TERRORIST ACTIVITIES WITH IMPUNITY." HE SAID THIS MUST STOP.

4. IRAN REP SAID QUESTION EXTREMELY COMPLICATED AND SERIOUS. PRIMARY QUESTION WAS HOW TO PROCEED. HE CITED EXTREME POSITIONS FAVORING EXCLUSIVE EMPHASIS ON CAUSES AND DEFINITIONS, ON THE ONE HAND, AND MEASURES ON THE OTHER HADN. HE SAID WE MUST NOT WAIT FOR A DEFINITION TO TAKE MEASURES AND SAID IF THERE IS A PRIORITY IT IS TO SAVE LIVES OF INNOCENT PEOPLE. HE ARGUED THERE SERIES OF SPECIFIC ACTS WE COULD AGREE ON, E.G. ACTS AGAINST SOVEREIGNTY OF STATES, ATTACKS ON DIPLOMATS, AIR PIRACY, TAKING OF HOSTAGES, ON WHICH WE COULD TAKE MEASURES. IN SEPARATE SUB-COMITES, WORK COULD PROCEED ON MEASURES AND CAUSES. WORK ON CAUSES AND DEFINITION MORE LONG TERM. HE SAID IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO REASSURE THOSE WORRIED ABOUT NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. HE SAID ONE COULD DRAFT CONVENTION COVERING ALL FORMS OF TERRORISM BUT THAT PROBLEMS WITH THIS APPROACH TOO GREAT. INSTEAD HE FAVORED SEVERAL CONVENTIONS DEALING WITH SPECIFIC ACTS ON WHICH AGREEMENT MIGHT BE REACHED. HE ADMITTED THAT THIS TOO TAKES TIME, BUT MEANWHILE MUCH COULD BE DONE, E.G. RES S/1105. GA COULD
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RECOMMEND NATIONAL MEASURES AS WELL AS RATIFICATION OF EXISTING CONVENTIONS AND COULD CONDEMN TERRORISM. HE QUOTED FRIENDLY RELATIONS DECLARATION LANGUAGE RELATING TO TERRORISM. HE CONCLUDED THAT IT POSSIBLE TO REMIND STATES OF THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER CHARTER AND GA RESES, RECOMMEND A SERIES OF MEASURES, AND UNDERTAKE CERTAIN STUDIES OF CAUSES.

5. US REP, EXERCISING RIGHT OF REPLY, CATEGORICALLY REJECTED SOV CHARGE OF CONNIVANCE IN JDL TERRORIST ACTIVITIES. USSR REP ANSWERED THAT HE ONLY STATING OBJECTIVE FACTS AND US REP KNOWS USG HAS NOT TAKEN EFFECTIVE ACTIONS, CITING AS EXAMPLE THAT PERSON WHO FIRED INTO SMUN IN OCT 1971 NOT PROSECUTED.

6. ALGERIAN REP, NOTING IMPORTANCE OF QUESTION, SAID DIFFERENCES THAT EXISTED DURING 27TH GA STILL WITH US AND PERHAPS EVEN SHARPER. HE DESCRIBED TWO SCHOOLS: (A) IMMEDIATELY ADOPT MEASURES, AND (B) EFFECTIVE ACTION CAN ONLY VALIDLY BE TAKEN ONCE CAUSES DEFINED. HE CONSIDERED MIDDLE VIEW OF TAKING MEASURES WHILE STUDYING CAUSES A VARIANT OF (A). WHILE CONCERNED AT SPREAD OF VIOLENCE AND CONDEMNING HARM TO INNOCENT VICTIMS, HE DISTINGUISHED "HEINOUS TERRORISM" AND "TERRORISM WHICH HAS A POLITICAL NATURE IN ITS AIMS." FORMER FALLS WITHIN DOMESTIC LEGISLATION AND THERE ALREADY INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION. THIS FORM OF TERRORISM SHOULD NOT BE DEALT WITHIN AD HOC COMITE, WHOSE MANDATE TO DEAL WITH POLITICAL TERRORISM. HE SAID TERRORISM COULD ARISE FROM CONDITIONS WITHIN PARTICULAR UNDER-DEVELOPED STATE; THIS NOT INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND SHOULD NOT GIVE RISE TO FOREIGN INTERVENTION. "POLITICAL TERRORISM" IS THAT RESORTED TO BY PEOPLES OPPRESSED BY COLONIALISM OR BECAUSE THEY ARE OCCUPIED. HE SAID A THIRD FORM OF TERRORISM WAS STATE ACTION. HE SAID THAT PEJORATIVE NUANCE OF TERRORISM UNWORTHY WHEN APPLIED TO NOBLE CAUSE. HE STRESSED NEED FOR FOCUS ON CAUSES AND SAID THAT EVIL WILL ONLY DISAPPEAR WHEN CAUSES DISAPPEAR. HE SAID HE DID NOT FAVOR DELAY, BUT IT ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL TO AGREE ON CAUSES BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE USEFUL COULD BE DONE. HE ALSO SAID IT IMPORTANT TO DEAL WITH MOST DANGEROUS AND PERNICIOUS FORM OF TERRORISM PRACTICED BY CERTAIN STATES, E.G. MASSACRES PERPETRATED BY PORTUGUESE. HE SAID STATE TERRORISM MUST BE DEALT WITH AS MATTER OF PRIORITY FOR THAT IS WHAT PROVOKES OPPRESSED PEOPLE. TO THOSE WHO ARGUE THAT UN WOULD BE DISCREDITED

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IF IT DIDN'T TAKE IMMEDIATE MEASURES, HE ARGUED MORE DISCREDIT RESULTS FROM ADOPTION OF MEASURES THAT ARE IN-EFFECTIVE AND THAT FAIL. HE OPPOSED SUBDIVISION OF AD HOC COMITE BECAUSE IT WOULD LEAD TO FRAGMENTATION OF PROBLEM WHICH COULD ONLY BE CONSIDERED AS WHOLE.

7. CHAIRMAN BOYD (PANAMA) ANNOUNCED THERE THREE OPTIONS FOR ORGANIZATION OF WORK:

TWO SUB-COMITES: THREE SUB-COMITES (ONE ON MEASURES, ONE ON CAUSES, ONE ON DEFINITION); NO SUB-COMITES. HE ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT GENERAL DEBATE WOULD CONTINUE JULY 31 "AS SPECIAL MEASURE" TO HEAR CONGO. DISCUSSION OF ORGANIZATION OF WORK BEGAN DURING AFTERNOON MEETING JULY 30 AFTER COMPLETION OF ALGERIAN STATEMENT.

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01

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8. ZAIRE REP PROPOSED THAT PLENARY (SITTING AS SUB-COMITE) HOLD CLOSED MEETINGS AND DISCUSS FIRST, DEFINITION; SECOND, CAUSES; AND THIRD, MEASURES. US REP SAID A REASONABLE COMPROMISE WHICH WOULD PROTECT THOSE INTERESTED IN DISCUSSING CAUSES AND THOSE INTERESTED IN MEASURES WOULD BE TO SPLIT INTO TWO SUB-COMITES WHICH WOULD BE OPEN-ENDED, NOT MEET SIMULTANEOUSLY, AND REPORT TO PLENARY WHICH WOULD HAVE FINAL SAY ON REPORT OF AD HOC COMITE. ALGERIA SAID BEFORE DECIDING NUMBER OF SUB-COMITES IT ESSENTIAL TO KNOW WHAT THE SUBJECT OF THEIR CONSIDERATION WOULD BE AND THIS COULD ONLY BE DONE BY STARTING WITH GENERAL DISCUSSION OF SCOPE OF WORK. USSR REP SAID, AS MATTER OF LOGIC, IT DIFFICULT TO CONCEIVE OF DISCUSSING MEASURES UNTIL SUBJECT MATTER HAD BEEN DEFINED; THEREFORE NECESSARY TO DEAL AS WHOLE WITH ENTIRE COMPLEX OF PROBLEMS AND THISE PERHAPS BEST DONE IN PLENARY AND NOT IN SUB-COMITES. JAPAN REP FAVORED TWO SUB-COMITES (AS PER PARA 9 OF USUN 2716). MAURITANIA SAID THERE MUST FIRST BE GENERAL DEBATE IN PLENARY TO DEFINE TERRORISM AND IT WOULD ONLY BE THEN THAT COMITE WOULD KNOW WHETHER IT NEEDED TWO, THREE, FOUR OR FIVE SUB-COMITES. IRAN REP SAID IT A MATTER OF LIMITED TIME FOR WORK OF COMITE AND URGED THAT WE HAVE SOME CONCRETE RESULT TO REPORT TO GA. CANADIAN REP AGREED AND SUGGESTED TWO SUB-COMITES WOULD SATISFY BOTH THOSE WHO WANTED UNCLASSIFIED

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TO WORK ON MEASURES AND THOSE WHO WANTED TO WORK ON CAUSES.

9. ALGERIAN REP CITED COMITE ON AGGRESSION AS EXAMPLE OF CONCRETE RESULT THAT MIGHT BE OBTAINED IN DEFINING TERRORISM. SWEDISH REP NOTED THAT OP PARA 10 OF UNGA RES 3034 ASKED AD HOC COMITE TO SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION FOR SPEEDY ELIMINATION OF PROBLEM AND THAT MERELY DEFINING PROBLEM WOULD NOT FILL GA'S MANDATE. JAPAN REP, CITING SOV REP REFERENCE TO AVIATION CONVENTIONS, NOTED THAT THESE ADOPTED WITHOUT PRIOR STUDY OF CAUSES. UK REP SUPPORTED JAPAN AND SWEDEN. HE DISTINGUISHED MANDATES OF TERRORISM COMITE AND AGGRESSION COMITE.

HE SAID GA TREATMENT OF ITEM SUGGESTED TWO DISTINCT PARTS--
CAUSES AND MEASURES--AND THIS SUGGESTED THEY SHOULD BE DEALT WITH
IN TWO SUB-COMITE REPORTING TO PLENARY. URUGUAY REP
AGREED. HE INTERESTED BOTH IN CAUSES AND IN URGENT MEASURES.
HE NOTED THAT SOME HAD SAID SOME FORMS OF TERRORISM
PERMISSIBLE, BUT ANSWERED THAT LEGITIMACY OF CAUSE DOES NOT
AUTOMATICALLY LEGITIMATE ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE. REGARDING
SELF-DETERMINATION, HE SAID MEASURES NOT INTENDED TO BE TO
ITS DETRIMENT AND WORDING ON THIS COULD BE WORKED OUT. RE
ORGANIZATION OF WORK, HE REGRETTED TIME WASTED WHILE INNOCENT
LIVES LOST AND SAID PUBLIC WOULD BE SURPRISED TO SEE UN ONLY
COME UP WITH A DEFINITION. HE SAID UN A PERMANENT STUDY OF
CAUSES, SO WE SHOULD APPLY OURSELVES TO MEASURES, TAKING
MOST NARROW SCOPE AS FIRST STEP IF WE COULD NOT AGREE ON WIDER
SCOPE. ITALIAN REP FELT A SENSE OF URGENCY IN THAT NOT MUCH
TIME LEFT FOR COMITE TO FULFILL ITS MANDATE. WHILE FULL STUDY
DESIRABLE, COMITE CALLED ON TO SUBMIT RECOMMENDATIONS TO GA
AND HE SUGGESTED CAME PRAGMATIC APPROACH BE USED AS IN OTHER
RELATED CONVENTIONS--IDENTIFY SPECIFIC EVENTS AND ELABORATE
MEASURES TO COVER THEM. HE SUPPORTED TWO SUB-COMITE.

10. CHAIRMAN BOYD CONCLUDED MEETING BY ANNOUNCING THAT EXCHANGE
WOULD CONTINUE MORNING JULY 31 IN EFFORT TO TRY TO FIND CONSENSUS.
IF SUB-COMITES ESTABLISHED, HE NOTED WIDE AGREEMENT THAT
THEY WOULD NOT MEET SIMULTANEOUSLY AND WOULD REPORT TO
PLENARY. HE ALSO NOTED THERE NINE WORKING DAYS LEFT AND IF
ORGANIZATION OF WORK DECIDED JULY 31, SIX DAYS MIGHT BE DEVOTED
TO MEETINGS OF SUB-COMITES AND TWO DAYS TO PLENARY FOR DISCUSSION
OF REPORT.

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